

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM AND CULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3096
ANSWERED ON:05.08.2002
DYING ART OF PUPPETRY
P.R. KHUTE

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government propose to launch any campaign to save the traditional art of 'Puppetry' practised in various parts of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER FOR TOURISM & CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN)

(a) to (c) The Sangeet Natak Akademi provides support to traditional forms of puppetry by organising festivals and workshops, documentation, training programmes, publications and grants. The Sangeet Natak Akademi has honoured 11 puppeteers with the Akademi Awards so far. The Akademi proposes to present a national festival of puppet theatre towards the end of 2002-03 in collaboration with Union Internationale De La Marionnette. Zonal Cultural Centres also support programmes of puppetry as part of their normal activities.